

# Calendar No. 208

117TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 451

To require the Secretary of Commerce, acting through the Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology, to help facilitate the adoption of composite technology in infrastructure in the United States, and for other purposes.

---

## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

FEBRUARY 25, 2021

Mrs. CAPITO (for herself, Mr. PETERS, and Mr. SCHATZ) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

DECEMBER 17, 2021

Reported by Ms. CANTWELL, without amendment

---

# A BILL

To require the Secretary of Commerce, acting through the Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology, to help facilitate the adoption of composite technology in infrastructure in the United States, and for other purposes.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Composite Standards  
3 Act of 2021”.

4 **SEC. 2. FACILITATING THE ADOPTION OF COMPOSITE  
5 TECHNOLOGY IN INFRASTRUCTURE.**

6 (a) RESEARCH.—Subject to the availability of appro-  
7 priations, the Secretary of Commerce, acting through the  
8 Director of the National Institute of Standards and Tech-  
9 nology, shall implement the recommendations contained in  
10 the December 2017 report entitled “Road Mapping Work-  
11 shop Report on Overcoming Barriers to Adoption of Com-  
12 posites in Sustainable Infrastructure”, as appropriate, to  
13 help facilitate the adoption of composite technology in in-  
14 frastructure in the United States. In implementing such  
15 recommendations, the Secretary, acting through the Di-  
16 rector shall, with respect to the use of composite tech-  
17 nology in infrastructure—

18 (1) not later than 1 year after the date of the  
19 enactment of this Act, develop a design for a data  
20 clearinghouse to identify, gather, validate, and dis-  
21 seminate existing design criteria, tools, evaluation  
22 methods and services, guidelines, and standards in a  
23 timely manner;

24 (2) not later than 18 months after the date of  
25 the enactment of this Act, establish the data clear-  
26 inghouse described in paragraph (1);

(A) conditioning protocols, procedures and models;

(B) screening and acceptance tools; and

(C) minimum allowable design data sets that can be converted into design tools; and

15 (b) STANDARDS COORDINATION.—The Secretary,  
16 acting through the Director, shall assure that the appro-  
17 priate Institute staff consult regularly with standards de-  
18 velopers, evaluation and accreditation bodies, members of  
19 the composites industry, institutions of higher education,  
20 and other stakeholders in order to facilitate the adoption  
21 of standards for use of composite materials in infrastruc-  
22 ture that are based on the research and testing results  
23 and other information developed by the Institute.

24 (c) PILOT PROGRAM.—

1                         (1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to the availability of  
2                         appropriations, commencing not later than 1 year  
3                         after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Di-  
4                         rector of the National Institute of Standards and  
5                         Technology shall, in consultation with the Industry-  
6                         University Cooperative Research Centers Program of  
7                         the National Science Foundation, conduct a pilot  
8                         program to assess the feasibility and advisability of  
9                         adopting composite technology in sustainable infra-  
10                         structure.

11                         (2) DURATION.—The Director shall carry out  
12                         the pilot program during the 4-year period beginning  
13                         on the date of the commencement of the pilot pro-  
14                         gram.

15                         (3) REPORTS.—

16                         (A) PRELIMINARY REPORT.—Not later  
17                         than the date that is 2 years after the date of  
18                         the commencement of the pilot program, the  
19                         Director shall submit to the Committee on  
20                         Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the  
21                         Senate and the Committee on Science, Space,  
22                         and Technology of the House of Representa-  
23                         tives a report on the preliminary findings of the  
24                         Director with respect to the pilot program.



**Calendar No. 208**

117TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION  
**S. 451**

---

---

**A BILL**

To require the Secretary of Commerce, acting through the Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology, to help facilitate the adoption of composite technology in infrastructure in the United States, and for other purposes.

---

---

DECEMBER 17, 2021  
Reported without amendment